

Unified Command BUZZARD'S BAY OIL SPILL

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Unified Command focuses on new impact areas

CAPE COD, Mass. – The Unified Command is increasing the number of personnel and assets working to clean up oil spilled in Buzzard's Bay, Mass., Sunday night.

Five skimming vessels have been ordered in from New Bedford, Mass., Boston and New York.

- A skimming boat on loan from the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Protection, is en route to oil spots in Buzzard's Bay.
- A contract vessel hired by Bouchard Transportation is en route to oil spots near Weepecket Island.
- Two Marine Spill Response Corporation (MSRC) shallow water barge systems are en route to the southeastern shoreline areas of Buzzard's Bay.
- A National Response Corporation (NRC) skimmer from Boston is scheduled to arrive in Buzzard's Bay Thursday.
- A second NRC skimmer from New York is also scheduled to arrive Thursday.

Six shoreline protection and recovery divisions have been formed to identify and clean up oil. There are three divisions on the west and three divisions on the east side of Buzzard's Bay being coordinated from the Incident Command Post at Coast Guard Air Station Cape Cod.

Additionally, two fast response teams from Clean Harbors have been formed. These teams can move quickly in small watercraft to clean up newly reported impacted areas.

The fuel from Bouchard barge B-120 is being offloaded at the Esco fuel terminal in Sandwich, Mass. Bouchard will then move the barge to New York for repairs pending Coast Guard approval of a transport plan.

More than 18 miles of shoreline has been impacted by oil. 1,860 gallons of oil and 110 cubic yards of debris have been collected. Six birds are dead and 20 are being rehabilitated.

The rehabilitation center for birds has been moved to the New Bedford wastewater treatment plant. Dr. Heidi Stout from Tri-State Bird Rescue and Research is leading bird rehabilitation efforts.

Oiled or dead birds or animals should not be handled by the public. They should be reported to the Coalition for Buzzard's Bay at (508) 999-6363.

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Buzzard's Bay Cleanup 2-2-2

Shoreline cleanup and assessment teams (SCATs) are placing colored flags on impacted beaches and sensitive areas. Orange flags denote shoreline areas in need of cleanup. Yellow flags denote environmentally sensitive habitat areas. If people encounter these flags, we ask that they do not remove them.

Bouchard Transportation has established a claims support hotline.

(800) 995-4045

Volunteers for shoreline cleanup can call the Coalition for Buzzard's Bay.

(508) 999-6363 ext. 207

Information on impact to fisheries is available from the Mass. Division of Marine Fisheries.

(508) 563-1779 ext. 114

Volunteers interested in assisting with the wild life effort can call the Coalition for Buzzard's Bay.

(508) 999-6363

Oil sightings on shore can be reported to the Unified Command.

(508) 968-6659

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